

Message Text

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40

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /084 W

----- 125620

R 071515 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3461

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 346

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS MI MZ

SUBJ: NEW ANGLE ON MALAWI/ MOZAMBIQUE BORDER CLASH

REF: BLANTYRE 667 (NOTAL)

1. ARGUS AFRICA NEWS SERVICE REPORTS THAT ARMED CLASHES DID APPARENTLY TAKE PLACE ON MALAWI/ MOZAMBIQUE BORDER LAST WEEK BUT THAT CLASHES WERE BETWEEN PORTUGUESE TROOPS AND FRELIMO GUERRILLAS FLEEING ACROSS THE BORDER FROM MOZAMBIQUE. MALAWI ARMY AND POLICE WERE NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED, ACCORDING TO ARGUS.

2. CLASHES REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE ON MAY 2 AND 3 WHEN PORTUGUESE TROOPS, INADVERTENTLY OR OTHERWISE, CROSSED BORDER ABOUT 80 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF BLANTYRE IN PURSUIT OF FLEEING GUERRILLAS. PORTUGUESE SPOTTER AIRCRAFT ENGAGED IN HUNT ALSO INTRUDED INTO MALAWI AIRSPACE, ACCORDING TO REPORTS.

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3. MALAWI ARMY UNITS ARE SAID TO HAVE MOVED DOWN TO THE AREA ONLY ON MAY 4 AS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE AND WERE NOT INVOLVED IN CLASHES WITH PORTUGUESE.

4. ARGUS SPECULATES THAT GOM AND GOP DENIALS THAT ANY CLASHES TOOK PLACE WERE MOTIVATED BY DESIRE AVOID WORSENING OF BILATERAL RELATIONS.
HURD

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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TAGS: MOPS, MI, MZ
To: AF
BLANTYRE
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SECSTATE WASHDC

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